

GLAST SWG Telecon 5/23/2002

Attended:

David Band
Elliott Bloom
Patrizia Caraveo
Liz Citrin
Lynn Cominsky
Neil Gehrels
Isabelle Granier
Don Kniffen
Giselher Lichti
Chip Meegan
Peter Michelson
Jay Norris
Jonathan, Ormes
Martin Pohl
Steve Ritz
David Thompson
Stephen Thorsett
Kathy Turner
Ev Valle

Welcome and opening remarks by Liz Citrin who chaired the meeting until Jonathan arrived.

Don Kniffen – HQ

1. International agreements – MOU's:
 - a. Italy – The latest draft agreement is in Italy. This draft does not include Patrizia's comments. Major contribution came from INFN, will work out an agreement with ASI.
 - b. France – Is also in France. MOA (between SLAC and France) is very close to being signed. When this is signed the LOA should be signed shortly thereafter.
 - c. Germany – NASA has sent the LOA to DLR. Signing process usually takes 5 months. There is still several months to go.
2. JOG – met 3 weeks ago. This was a good, healthy exchange. Major issue was the cost growth and who would provide the extra funding. John O'Fallen, D.O.E., came up with a formula for the cost growth. Paul Hertz, NASA HQ, also submitted his version of a formula. Didn't agree but weren't that much different. Will resolve the formula issue as soon as possible so the cost growth issue will be resolved. The JOG did agree on the increase of contingency. Planning another meeting in the near future to resolve these outstanding issues.
3. User's Group – had a discussion with Paul Hertz regarding the User's Group. He suggested that it was way too early to establish the group. Aside from commenting on the PDMP, there would be nothing else for them to do for quite awhile. There is a draft already of the PDMP. The concern is the data rights statement in the PDMP. It's a project document and the data rights issue is a Level 1 document. After the approval of the PDMP, Don will write a letter to J. Ormes giving legitimacy to the data rights issue. Only HQ can decide on data rights.
David Band stated that the PDMP has not been revised much since the December meeting in Santa Cruz. He will edit it again and forward to Jonathan and Don for their comments before circulating to the SWG members. Jonathan will decide when it should be posted to the Project Website as a DRAFT.

Foreign Partners Comments:

France – Isabelle: CNES is doing much better and are proceeding in the right direction. MOA has been sent and should be signed in a few days. After it has been signed by the French, it will be sent to NASA HQ and signed. Question was asked: What's going to happen since the change in government and the change in CNES? Isabelle doesn't really know. Hope there will be no change at CNES, because they are going in the right direction. GLAST has been reviewed 3 times, and doesn't think it will be dropped.

Italy – Patrizia: Nothing new, the situation at ASI remains the same. ASI is discussing plans for 2004-2006 and until they are through, nothing much is being done and no decisions are being made.

Germany - Giselher: MOU is sitting at the lawyers. Hoping it will be signed in the next couple months. Phase C cannot continue immediately after Phase B. Earliest is October, but most likely it will start at the beginning of the new year. Question from Liz: Why what happened? DLR agreed to fund Phase B. GLAST is in the DLR's financial plan for 2003-2004, but the money is not available now. Giselher has some money left over from Phase B so they are moving ahead technically but at a slower pace. Chip stated that this would slip a little for delivery, but shouldn't be that bad. This would mean a 3-5 month slip.

Kathy Turner – D.O.E.

Working on putting together the Delta baseline in conjunction with NASA to be held at the end of July. And also dealing with the funding increase for LAT also in conjunction with NASA.

Don Kniffen stated that NASA's Administrator was to meet with the new ASI President earlier this week but had to be postponed. Don put together something about GLAST for the administrator so he would have it before their meeting.

Liz Citrin – Project Manager

1. RFO for the spacecraft has been distributed. Proposals are due June 19. Hoping for a 6 week turn around and the contractor be announced in August.
2. Have a new mission schedule – 6 month launch delay to September 2006. This includes the 6 month delay in LAT delivery. Finalization will take place after the spacecraft contractor is on board.
3. Technical item – looking for 30 megahertz allocation, not given up on 20 megahertz, but have the mission for 10 megahertz. The 6 meter antenna cannot meet the needs outlined. There is a baseline backup, a 11-13 meter antenna. Still working out details. Patrizia will check with ASI to see if something can be done about upgrading. 5 passes per day but could be 7 with 10 megahertz. Tracking station in Hawaii can be used, but there are other options. Isabelle will investigate her French connections.
4. Steve Ritz is on the evaluation team for the spacecraft.

Peter Michelson – LAT

PDR review was held in January. Are addressing issues for the formal PDR at the end of July.

Working on the Cost & schedule issues. Part of the 6 month slip.

Had a Director internal review at SLAC.

Working on the LAT finalizing international agreements. Should start signing off next week, all except Italy.

Neil Gehrels added that there will be a Collaboration Meeting in the October timeframe, probably in the 3rd week; to be held in the Washington area. Planning another in May 2003 in Italy.

Chip Meegan – GBM

Had the GBM PDR April 9-11. Had 2 teams one from MSFC, the other GSFC. Went well, felt it was a good review. From MSFC had 7 RID's (Review Item Discrepancies). From GSFC had 26 RFA's (Request For Action).

Software development schedule was the main concern, but have corrected that. Biggest problem was the slip in schedule. Southwest is on tract and won't slip.

GRB Working group: had the first telecon on 5/7. Will be setting up additional telecons. David B. will set up one on ground s/w and the SSC. This will include transients. Suppose to communicate from the SSC. Another telecon will be on Burst alerts.

ACTION item is to have these telecons before the next SWG telecon.

Are GRB issues and the LAT working together. Jay is on both teams and keeping each informed. Jay is working on an e-mail about simulations and triggering. Will send to Chip in the next couple days. Biggest concern for the GBM is not to get out of sync with the LAT.

David Band – SSC

1. The ACTION item concerning the archiving of data: put everything in FITS files and archiving it like that. Other missions are doing this and is working well. Data from ground should be archived for future use? The software already exists – Chip is using it. Will be difficult to read. Ground data is needed but should not be available to the public. Will need to have a place to store it. Chip stated that collaborating with the SSC would be no problem. Support necessary for this will be a SSC person.
2. Software working groups: The LAT and SSC have weekly meetings. Science tools have been produced. Are having a meeting in June at Stanford to go over these tools. Seth has circulated this to some people and it is also on the website.
3. Working on data base architecture, and analysis tools.
4. SSC to post scientists at Stanford and MSFC.
5. SSC has a functional working document.

Jay Norris added that Valerie Connaughton has been hired for the GBM site and Jim Chang (to start mid June) for the LAT site.

Lynn Cominsky – EPO

1. GLAST Active Galaxy poster – have already given out 4300 of the original 5000 ordered. Will order another 5000 when money becomes available.
2. Activities to go on the back of the posters – Government Printing Office requires printing on the back of posters for Educational purposes. They will not print the posters until all the activities are complete and is sent to them in one package.
3. Trading cards and Cosmic card games – after some delay, they have been printed and are being distributed.
4. TOP lesson plans – incorporate math & science activities.
5. GLAST telescope network – meeting in Hawaii in June. Have a MOD signed agreement with the RCT collaboration to use their 53” telescope on Kitt Peak.
6. WestEnd will evaluate the Ambassador program this summer.
7. The next round of mysteries is in the works. EPO/NOVA will host GLAST show on PBS. Lynn to meet with Tom Lucas and NOVA. To be a 2-hour show to air 2005. May collaborate with Chandra to use some of their data on the show. Will focus on the building of GLAST and will include super nova, big bang and black holes. Jonathan asked why exclude the press until the event is perfect: Why not include them at the very beginning when the instrument is turned on, etc.
8. Is writing article for the HEAD newsletter. Draft has been sent out but need comments today. Article is due tomorrow. This is for the “GLAST Mission News” section.
9. Chris W. is working on a project brochure.
10. The GLAST video is out and Neil has copies. Neil will sent to the SWG.

Neil Gehrels reported that the tri-fold brochure is almost ready and will go to the printer soon. Lynn would like to see it and make comments.

Next Face-to-Face – September 12-13 in Huntsville. Chip reported that he has 12 speakers confirmed for the workshop. Will send out information to Sandy to distribute before the next telecon.

ACTION items report:

1. Peter – characteristics of LAT on website – still open.
2. Chip and Peter on pre-flight calibration plan – David B. addressed in his report.
3. Jonathan – transients – still open.
4. Steve Ritz – all sky survey, assimilation tool - will discuss with Jerry Bonnell.
5. Legacy - to be discussed at the SWG face-to-face.
6. Don Kniffen – data rights of guest investigators.
7. Don K. – User’s Committee – addressed in his report
8. Stephen T. – Pulsar Data Base Group – is meeting in August and will report at the SWG face-to-face.
9. Neil – working group list – will have for the next telecon.

Next Telecon, Thursday, July 25, at 11:30AM - 1:30PM

Meeting Adjourned.

6/13/2002